

## ALVESCOT PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Present : Justine Garbutt (JG) Mike Honour (MH) Richard Munro (RM) Dennis Govan (DG)  
Robert Lewin (RL) Paul Wilson OCC (PW)

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77 **Apologies for Absence:**  
Becky Hird (BH)

78 **To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:**  
None

79 **Adjournment for Public**  
RL- Representing the Village Hall Committee concerning progress on Car Park

80 **Oxon Together- Paul Wilson**

PW explained Oxon Together was about Parish Councils taking on some services that OCC are not delivering; some are funded, some are not. OCC has lost a large amount of funding for Highways issues and these items can be taken over by PC's eg. sign cleaning, weed clearing, hedge cutting. All these items have had their but cut or removed. The Oxon Together list was sent round to Parishes which stated the minimal service provided so you can opt to increase the service by doing it yourselves. Whatever the Parish decide to do the OCC services will continue.

MH- How do we access the funding- we already receive £800 as a grasscutting grant with the new contract in 2017 would there be new funding. Yes more funding will be available approx 10p per mtr, OCC will continue with only 1 cut per annum on visibility splays.

RM- We must have better communication between OCC and Parishes, we have meaningful discussions but then nothing. OxTog had some teething problems in the beginning but now we have Area Stewards back involved.

- Traffic Calming- extend the speed limit - 20mph – community speed warden – what is feasible. Tony Kirkwood in Traffic team will be able to help.
- Footpath Survey. We completed ours and sent a copy to Dan Weekes but we commented on the Rights of Way Strategy and have had nothing back. PW will email with the contact.
- Extending footpath to cattery- This would be for asset management tem PW will let us know the pricing for this.
- Cycle Paths – these should be supported as sustainable transport. PW in current financial climate this is probably not possible.
- Direction signs- Lower End sign has disappeared. Contact James Wright WODC
- Ditch Clearance- this is for adjacent landowner to keep under control. Drainage is dealt with by Wayne Barker.

PW was thanked for attending the meeting.

81 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

81.1 Minutes of meeting 21<sup>st</sup> September were accepted and signed

81.2 Matters arising:

RM- Has response been sent to Fete Committee Tessa Farley and Kim Govan. Yes

As RL was present MH moved Car Park item up the agenda.

82 **Car Park**

It is becoming increasingly unlikely that we will be able to do anything with the car park as the school have confirmed they are unable to help with the funding.

We believe the school has to prioritise. They do have other money and they could raise the money in the longer term. They want to use the gravel area on the playing field but do not seem willing to help with the upkeep. Parking is a big issue for the school. Maybe it should be left to deteriorate?

RM- Village Hall Committee have asked for clarity about the process. We did have comparable quotes, as they have been informed before, but they have asked if we could take out the grass area as well and paint parking bays. The grass area cannot be removed as there is a raised drain in that area. We can no longer but correspondence back and forth a meeting needs to be held between the three parties to discuss what options there are and where the funding comes from. If no agreement can be reached then we throw it back to the village with the financial implications.

There is no quick fix, maintenance will need to be upheld. In the short term we could spread more gravel but in 2 years time we will be in the same position.

If the school want to use it they need to contribute to the costs; the letter from the school is very disappointing, they do have other funds that they could prioritize.

DG offered to arrange a meeting. Clerk will send past information to DG.

### 83 **Planning Applications: RM**

83.1 16/02402/FUL Rectory Farm- awaiting decision

83.2 16/02565/FUL 8 Pemscoot Close awaiting decision

83.3 16/03258/FUL 1 Thorpes Field awaiting decision

83.4 MH has been handed the plans for the school extension to ask the PC if they have any comments before they are submitted. We do not have any objections other than the traffic and parking problems.

83.5 Local Plan – Out for consultation – it was not discussed today and deferred to next Wednesday. There are no direct implications for Alvescot Parish only Carterton where they are looking at areas already identified.

### 84 **Plan A: RM/JG**

84.1 WODC have allegedly done the jobs they were supposed to.

Environment Agency actions. It is difficult to see what they have and have not undertaken. The pumping station in Lower End was supposed to have a bend rectified.

JG made her apologies and left the meeting.

### 85 **Playing Field: MH**

85.1 Sub Committee meeting was held on 17<sup>th</sup> October. 1<sup>st</sup> draft of their budget for 2017/18 was circulated. There is £1k in PC 2016/17 budget left for them to spend and this will be done based on the RoSPA report. The major repairs need to be undertaken first. This will leave approx £2100. MDCH will finalise the figures and give to the Clerk the week before the Precept meeting.

85.2 MH had a meeting with Sam King, RAF and Jenny Withers- Community Liaison, we maybe able to apply for up to £20k funding for the playground. We looked at new build a few years ago and it was ~£80k. This fund will continue to donate money and we may be able to replace equipment as and when required. MH/MDCH will get a quote for replacing the large piece of equipment and see if we can ask for funding on that, we also need to find out what the %age is for matched funding. MH has the application form but the next funding round ends on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. This may be too short notice.

### 86 **Traffic & Highways MH**

86.1 Pot holes in Mill Lane have been marked.

### 87 **Environment & Conservation: DG**

87.1 Village clean up will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> November. MH to order supplies.

### 88 **Countryside & Footpaths: DG**

88.1 Nothing to report

### 89 **Communication:**

89.1 Clerk will write next issue of Parish Pump and include, groundsman job, fireworks, next meeting and litter pick.

- 90 **V Hall: BH**  
90.1 No report
- 91 **Finance**  
91.1 Cheque list circulated and agreed. Cheques were signed.  
91.2 As agreed at the last meeting Clerk has applied for the grant towards a new website so we can adhere to the new Transparency Code.  
91.3 Income and Expenditure- Figures were circulated. This confirms we cannot put anymore funds to the car park. The village expenditure is currently running to the budget. Plan A will be meeting in December concerning the funds the PC are holding.
- 92 **War Memorial**  
92.1 Clerk has received a quote for the plaque. There are three different materials that can be used. Cast and painted polyurethane, cast in bronze and bronze plate etched. The opinion of the Council was if a plaque were to be laid then it would be cast in bronze. The cost of this is £843. Councillors will meet after the meeting and decide where the plaque is to be located. Mr J Datnow, Alvescot House will need to be contacted if we are to attach it to the wall.
- 93 **WODC Correspondance**  
93.1 Council Tax Reduction Consultation- no comment  
93.2 Unitary Authority – email from James Mills noted
- 94 **Local Government Technical Consultation**  
No comments to be made
- 95 **Payphone Removal**  
Paperwork has been received from BT concerning the removal of the Alvescot payphone as well as many others in the district. There have been no phone calls made from the phonebox in the last 12 months therefore it would be very difficult to argue it is needed. Clerk will contact BT and state we would like to keep it in situ if possible.
- 96 **Next Meeting**  
Next meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016